



**Karl Gordon Lark, Ph.D.**  
**Academia**

Some people, fortunately, just can't seem to retire, and Dr. Lark, Distinguished Professor of Biology, Emeritus, at the University of Utah is clearly one of them. As a colleague put it, "Dr. Lark has maintained excellence in his science for over four decades, and is still going strong. His current work on mapping quantitative trait loci in the dog is receiving broad recognition all over the world." It is not only his research that has earned his recognition here, however. As another distinguished scientist wrote in their letter of recommendation, "Not only is he an outstanding scientist, and a scientific pioneer, but one can scarcely imagine what biological research and the biotechnology industry would be like in Utah, had Professor Lark not come a little more than three decades ago." Indeed, many have called him the "Father" of modern Biology in Utah. Hired to rebuild Biology at the UU in 1970, he has been held largely responsible for creating one of the best departments for molecular genetics in the nation, and laying a foundation for the renowned Department of Human Genetics at the UU School of Medicine. He did this in part by attracting many of today's biotech leaders, one of whom wrote that, "No one else in the world could have successfully recruited me to Utah." In summary, one senior colleague who has since moved on to another state put it this way: "I hope that I can contribute to my new University some small fraction of what Lark brought to the University of Utah. I cannot imagine anyone who has made a more profound contribution to the State of Utah or will leave such a solid and long-lasting legacy."